

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MANAGU 02176 042343Z

60

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-07 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 AGR-03 AID-10 EB-03 L-02 PRS-01 SWF-01

COME-00 USSS-00 SY-02 SSO-00 DRC-01 /066 W

----- 017709

O P 042320Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR PRIORITY

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4298

S E C R E T MANAGUA 2176

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, GS, PFOR, NU

SUBJECT: BANANAS - DISCUSSION WITH GENERAL ANASTASIO SOMOZA - 6/4/74

REF : SAN JOSE 2108

1. NICARAGUAN GENERAL ANASTASIO SOMOZA TOLD THE AMBASSADOR LATE AFTERNOON OF JUNE 4 THAT HE HAD HAD EXTENDED MEETING DURING THE DAY WITH OFFICIALS OF STANDARD FRUIT. THEY HAD EXPRESSED TO SOMOZA EXTREME CONCERN OVER THE APPARENT STATEMENT MADE BY PANAMANIAN AMBASSADOR PERE IN SAN JOSE REGARDING ALLEGED PLOT TO ASSASSINATE GENERAL TORRIJOS AND TO THROW GOVERNMENTS OF COSTA RICA AND HONDURAS. SOMOZA STATED THAT HE ATTEMPTED TO REACH GENERAL TORRIJOS BY TELEPHONE BY TORRIJOS WAS APPARENTLY VISITING AN OFFSHORE ISLAND AND WAS NOT AVAILABLE.

2. SOMOZA TALKED TO PANAMANIAN MINISTER OF ECONOMY MANFREDO, WHO SAID THAT HE WAS UNAWARE OF ANY "THREAT" TO GENERAL TORRIJOS BUT HAD BEEN ADVISED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF UNITED FRUIT THAT STANDARD

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MANAGU 02176 042343Z

FRUIT REPRESENTATIVES HAD PROPOSED DURING MEETING BETWEEN THE TWO

THAT PROBLEM OF BANANA TAX COULD BE SOLVED BY "OVER-THROWING GOVERNMENT OF HONDURAS". STANDARD FRUIT REPRESENTATIVES STATE THAT SUCH AN ALLEGATION IS UTTERLY UNTRUE AND ABSURD, AND THAT ANY MEETINGS THAT THEY HAVE HAD WITH UNITED FRUIT HAVE BEEN ATTENDED BY ATTORNEYS FROM BOTH SIDES. MINISTER MANFREDO ALSO STATED ACCORDING TO SOMOZA THAT UNITED FRUIT WAS WILLING TO PAY \$1.00 PER BOX TAX ON PANAMANIAN BANANAS BUT WISHED PANAMA TO "PUT PRESSURE" ON US GOVERNMENT TO HAVE TAX DEDUCTED FROM US CORPORATE INCOME TAX PAID BY COMPANY.

3. SOMOZA HAS TALKED TO HONDURAN GENERAL LOPEZ TODAY AND COMMENTED TO HIM ON WHAT HE CONSIDERS TO BE DETERIORATING SITUATION REGARDING BANANA MARKET AND NEED FOR REASONABLE SOLUTION. KIRCHOFF AND WAITE, STANDARD FRUIT EXECUTIVES LEFT SOMOZA LATE THIS AFTERNOON AND ARE PROCEEDING TO HONDURAS WHERE THEY WILL MEET JUNE 5 AT 10 AM WITH MINISTERS BANNATON, BATRES AND ACOSTA BONILLA.
SHELTON

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ASSASSINATION, GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, CUSTOMS DUTIES, BANANAS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MEETINGS, NEGOTIATIONS, BUSINESS FIRMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MANAGU02176
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740141-1049
From: MANAGUA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740677/aaaacopf.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: SAN JOSE 2108
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 SEP 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <13 FEB 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BANANAS - DISCUSSION WITH GENERAL ANASTASIO SOMOZA - 6/4/74
TAGS: ETRD, PFOR, PINS, NU, STANDARD FRUIT, UNITED FRUIT, (SOMOZA, ANASTASIO), (TORRIJOS)
To: SAN JOSE TEGUCIGALPA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005